

Do You Have Your National Provider Identifier? Getting an NPI is free - not having one can be costly!

The NPI compliance date is May 23, 2007. It's every provider's responsibility to make sure that an NPI is obtained if the provider is required to do so. If you're not sure, it's time to investigate. Get your NPI now so you have time to prepare before the compliance date. This includes sharing your NPI and appropriately testing it with payers to avoid a disruption in cash flow.

Healthcare providers can still apply for National Provider Identifiers (NPI) in one of three ways.

1. For the most efficient application processing and the fastest receipt of NPIs, healthcare providers should consider using the web-based NPI application process. They can log onto the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES) and apply online at <https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov/NPPES/Welcome.do>; or
2. Healthcare providers can agree to have an Electronic File Interchange (EFI) organization (EFIO) submit application data on their behalf (i.e., through a bulk enumeration process) if an EFIO requests their permission to do so; or,
3. Healthcare providers may wish to obtain a copy of the paper NPI Application/Update Form (CMS-10114) and mail the completed, signed application to the NPI Enumerator located in Fargo, ND, whereby staff at the NPI Enumerator will enter the application data into NPPES. The form will be available only upon request through the NPI Enumerator. Healthcare providers who wish to obtain a copy of this form must contact the NPI Enumerator in any of these ways:

Phone: 1-800-465-3203 or TTY1-800-692-2326
E-mail: customerservice@npientumerator.com

Mail: NPI Enumerator
P.O.Box6059
Fargo, ND 58108-6059

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NPI Training Package

CMS has developed a Training package on NPI that will assist providers with self-education, as well as education of staff. This package is also useful to national and local medical societies for group presentations and training. The entire package will consist of five modules: General Information, Electronic File Interchange (EFI), Subparts, Data Dissemination and Medicare Implementation. Each Module consists of a PowerPoint presentation (with speaker's notes) and is designed to stand alone or can be combined with other Modules for a training session tailored to the particular audience. **Modules will be posted to the CMS NPI web page as completed.**

Modules currently available include:

- Module 1: General Information
- Module 2: Electronic File Interchange (EFI)
- Module 3: Subparts

To view these Modules, visit http://www.cms.hhs.gov/NationalProviderStand/04_education.asp#TopOfPage on the CMS NPI web page and find the "NPI Training Package" under the "Downloads".

National Provider Identifier (NPI)

Effective January 23, 2004, the final rule regarding the National Provider Identifier (NPI) was published. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) started assigning NPI numbers to providers last May. AHCCCS and CMDP will require the NPI to be used as the healthcare provider identifier for all claims submissions starting in May 2007.

Providers who submit claims to CMDP can now submit their NPI number to the CMDP Provider Services Department. To submit the NPI number, providers can mail or fax a copy of their NPI notification to:

**Comprehensive Medical and Dental Program
Attention: Provider Services
4000 N. Central Avenue, 22nd Floor
Phoenix, AZ 85038
Fax: 602-264-3801**

The documentation must include the provider's name, AHCCCS ID number and provider's signature. NPI numbers will also be accepted via written notification either by mailing or faxing to the information listed previously.

CMDP is targeting January 1, 2007 as the optional claims submission date. However, effective May 23, 2007, all claims must be submitted with the NPI when applicable. More information is available at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/NationalProvIdentStand/>. Click here to register for a NPI number: <https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov/NPPES/StaticForward.do?forward=static.npistart>

New WEDI Early Adopters Series

The Workgroup for Electronic Data Interchange (WEDI) has developed a series of monthly 90-minute audio casts that highlight the NPI related planning, management, communication and implementation activities. Visit the WEDI website for more information and to register for this audio cast at <http://www.wedi.org/npioi/index.shtml>. Please note that there is a cost to register for this WEDI event.

Information on Covered Entities Under HIPAA

CMS has posted a new "Frequently Asked Question" to the CMS website that addresses whether a healthcare provider is a covered entity under HIPAA if they receive health information electronically (e.g. an electronic remittance advice), but do not transmit any health information electronically. The link is listed below or you can go to the CMS.gov website and click on "Questions" in the blue banner.

http://questions.cms.hhs.gov/cgi-bin/cmshhs.cfg/php/enduser/std_adp.php?p_faqid=7906&p_created=1158786931&p_sid=fY-kZcii&p_accessibility=0&p_lva=&p_sp=cF9zcmNoPSZwX3NvcnRfYnk9JnBfZ3JpZHNvcnQ9MjoyJnBfcm93X2NudD0yNTQxJnBfcHJvZHM9JnBfY2F0cz0mcF9wdj0mcF9jdj0mcF9zZWZyY2hfdHlwZT1hbnN3ZXJzLnNIYXJjaF9ubCZwX3BhZ2U9MQ**&p_li=&p_topview=1

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